

## OPENS BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW MEETING

Thirty-Sixth Annual Convention of National Body at Norfolk.

NORFOLK, VA., Oct. 12.—Following the meeting of the National Council at the Southland Hotel this morning, a series of sectional conferences during the day in the convention hall at the Ghent Club, the thirty-sixth annual convention of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew was officially welcomed to the city tonight.

Members of the main body of the association continued through the remainder of the week at the Ghent Club, while the boys' convention will be in session at the parish house of Christ church.

Acting for Albert L. Roger, president of the council, City Attorney R. W. Peatross made the welcoming address on behalf of the city of Norfolk.

Bishop B. D. Tucker and Bishop Co-Adjutor A. C. Thompson welcomed the visitors on behalf of the church and the diocese of the Southern district. E. H. Bonsell, of Philadelphia, president of the Brotherhood, called the gathering to order and presided over the convention.

The chief work of the evening session was the election of the convention officers and the appointment of committees. The committee on the convention's message to the Brotherhood was heard during the evening.

At the same time the boys' convention in Christ Church parish house met and was welcomed to Norfolk officially and in behalf of the church and local boys' organizations. The boys' session was featured by an address by Canon Skeet of Toronto on "The Good Planned Life."

### IMPERIAL WIZARD WAXES EMPHATIC DEFENDING ORDER

(Continued from First Page.)

the part of alleged klansmen. Mr. Simmons declared that when a member took the law into his own hands he automatically was dropped from the organization.

"And I have never yet failed," he added, "to turn over to the legal authorities. If I had it, any evidence needed to bring about a conviction, I have given it. Everything in that direction has been done. I can say that I personally or myself or of the Klan, ever attempted to shield a criminal. A member's oath requires him to uphold and respect the law, our ethical, about which so many slanders things have been said, is copyrighted, and filed there five years in the Library of Congress. Surely, it would not have been put there under the eye of the government if we had anything to conceal. There is nothing in it but love of country and pure Americanism."

**Pray Rather Than Incite Riots.**

He also claimed that the Klan sought to obtain officers of the law and member was characterized by the imperial wizard "as a tremendous indictment against the honor of American citizenship."

Denying that the Klan invited to riot, he declared no riot had occurred in any

city where the Klan had representation.

"The Ku Klux Klan is much Protestant and non-political organization," he said. "It does not seek political power. It has offered big rewards for capture of law breakers posing as klansmen and its records show where it has provided substantial aid for those needing it. In the six years I have been with the organization, we have paid out more than \$100,000. Atlanta home was the gift of members, most of whom subscriber less than a dollar. If the Ku Klux were a lawless band there would not be such a growth of membership, including leading citizens of many communities, North, East and South."

**DO NOT RECEIVE LARGE SALARIES.**

He said that the salary of the organization received large sums of money, or bonuses, Mr. Simmons said.

"We are spending the surplus money of the Klan in further building and enlargement of Lanier University, Atlanta, Ga. We have spent and are spending on Lanier University the sum of \$150,000."

He introduced into the record the centre record and expenditures pertaining to Lanier University, also the central rights and expenditures of the Klan, he added.

"The university is not sectarian; it does not teach nor even touch the Ku Klux Klan; the only two courses that are compulsory, is a course in the fundamentals of our civilization, which are the tenets of the Christian religion, using the Holy Bible as a basic text book and the teaching and including the fundamentals of pure Americanism and development of correct citizenship."

"Many of the faculty and trustees are not even members of the Klan. They are among the leaders in educational work in the South and would not be connected with an institution or organization that was even faintly

tinged with what has been charged against the Klan.

"The Klan is a good organization, that we are organized to preach and spread religious intolerance and specially that we are anti-Roman Catholic, anti-Jew and anti-negro," Mr. Simmons continued.

"The works of the Klan prove this absolutely untrue. Many alleged outrages have been attributed to the Klan, but the work against Roman Catholics, Jews and negroes, that is the Klan. It is indeed strange that it was organized to persecute the Roman Catholics, Jews and negroes, that nothing has been done against them."

"Since the fight against the Klan

we have been offered and urged to use, by those who are anti-Roman Catholic and not members of the Klan, to do the greatest existing mass of damage and physical harm against the Roman Catholics and Knights of Columbus. If the Klan was anti-Roman Catholic we would have certainly used the material offered us, but the offer was refused."

"Discussions involving any man's religious belief are never allowed in a meeting of the Klan."

"Declaring that the attacks against the Klan were originated and started by the New York World, whose main purpose is circulation and revenue, the witness said:

"The World is the stronghold of

the Democratic newspapers and the Democratic party, and it has been said by those in a position to know, that if the World could by sheer propaganda and untruthful slanders, force a Republican Congress and administration to throttle and destroy a purely loyal American Protestant fraternal organization, as is the Ku Klux Klan, that its hundreds of thou-

sands of members, friends and those who think as does the Klan, would at the polls three years from now forget party lines and preference and vote the Democratic ticket."

Referring to "attacks on the Klan by Hearst newspapers" Mr. Simmons turned toward C. Anderson Wright,

a former klansman, who wrote a series of articles about the organization, said:

"Just as Judas betrayed Christ for thirty pieces of silver, so there was found by the Hearst paper C. Anderson Wright, a former klansman, who for money betrayed his oath. My in-

formation is that the Hearst paper paid this man \$5,000 cash and \$1,000 as long as he worked on their stories, and also agreed to protect him from any damage suits and all legal action resulting from his life stories. These stories being fair from start to finish."

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